

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 02264 111701Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----120815Z 127375 /10

R 111638Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9475
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2264
EXDIS
EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR GR ET SREF
SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR SEEKS POLITICAL ASYLUM

REF: STATE 48415

1. THE ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS SINCE NOVEMBER 1975, KEBEDE GEBRE WOLDE, HAS REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN GREECE. JEAN RETALIS OF THE MFA'S AFRICAN, MIDDLE EAST, ASIAN BUREAU CONFIRMED TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER MARCH 11 THAT WOLDE HAD LEFT HIS EMBASSY AND ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO REMAIN IN GREECE. RETALIS DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG WOLDE INTENDED TO REMAIN HERE.
2. AN OFFICIAL OF DEREE-PIERCE COLLEGE IN ATHENS INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT WOLDE HAD BEEN GIVEN A ONE-SEMESTER LECTURESHIP IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THE CURRENT SEMESTER WILL END IN JUNE.
3. APPARENTLY NEITHER WOLDE NOR THE ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY HERE HAS MADE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST FOR ASYLUM. THE STORY HAS LEAKED TO THE GREEK PRESS, HOWEVER, AND THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) BULLETIN MARCH 11 CITES "WELL-INFORMED SOURCES" AS CONFIRMING THAT THE ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR HAS REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM. THE SAME SOURCES ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTED AS SAYING THAT THE REQUEST IS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE GREEK AUTHORITIES.
MILLS

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE RAISED TO EXDIS PER S/S-O - MR. STEINER.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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To: STATE
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